

Government Technology Collaboration Fund

1998 Grants

Project: Data Storage of Geologic Logs From Water Well Registration

Agency: Department of Water Resources and Conservation and Survey Division, IANR,
University of Nebraska

Award: \$22,200 (Actual Expenditure: \$22,200)

The grant allowed the DWR and Conservation and Survey Division to work across agency boundaries to make water well registration information available to the public. Well registration information was converted from paper to an electronic format and posted on the DWR Web site. GTCF funding provided for the conversion of nearly 68% of the wells in the DWR registered water well database (65 counties).

Project: Feasibility Study for Paperless Decision Making Environment

Agency: Board of Parole

Award: \$13,000 (Actual Expenditure: \$10,010)

The Board of Parole utilized these grant funds to perform a feasibility study for an automated, paperless decision-making environment. A consultant performed the study, prepared an action plan, and completed a cost-benefit analysis.

Project: Networking and Web Site

Agency: Nebraska Wheat Board

Award: \$7,000 (Actual Expenditure: \$6,984.33)

This small agency purchased hardware and equipment for their office network and developed a Web site with these grant funds.

Project: Needs Assessment of the State's Emergency Response Organizations

Agency: State Fire Marshal

Award: \$25,000 (Actual Expenditure: \$11,656.28)

The GTCF grant funds allowed the State Fire Marshal to analyze the benefits and usage of computers by emergency organizations across the state and perform a needs assessment. The Fire Marshal utilized a survey which focused on computer use for supporting normal operations,

training, and emergency reporting of these organizations. A report was prepared based on the results of the survey and information was provided to the 686 emergency response organizations.

Project: Upgrade Existing Network and Development of a Statewide Postsecondary Educational Facilities Database

Agency: Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education

Award: \$60,145 (Actual Expenditure: \$57,741.72)

The CCPE used the grant funds to purchase hardware, communications equipment, and create a database of postsecondary educational facilities. The database has been populated and reports on these facilities can be generated. The database is available on the Web, and can also be updated on-line.

Project: State and Local Government Standards: Electronic Imaging, E-mail, and Web sites.

Agency: Secretary of State - Records Management Division

Award: \$48,850 (Actual Expenditure: \$44,683.97)

A consultant was hired to develop these retention standards for state and local government. A set of draft rules and regulations were prepared. Focus group meetings and public forums were held to obtain input on these documents.

Project: Transform Corn Production and Economic Information into a GIS Reporting System

Agency: Nebraska Corn Board

Award: \$4,018 (Actual Expenditure: \$4,018)

The Corn Board used grant funds to purchase hardware, software, and training on GIS software. The Board is using the GIS information to better analyze data on corn production, transportation, storage, pricing, uses, and marketing.

Project: Conversion from Macintosh to Windows PCs

Agency: Foster Care Review Board

Award: \$50,182 (Actual Expenditure: \$50,182)

The grant funds were used to partially complete the conversion of this agency from Macintosh-based computers to Windows-based computers. The agency sought to increase compatibility with other public and private entities, and be more cost-effective in terms of hardware/software purchases, upgrades, and repairs.

2000 Grants

Project: E-granting Conversion Project

Agency: Nebraska Arts Council

Award: \$41,000 (Actual Expenditure: \$16,000)

The Arts Council worked with IMServices to develop a Web-based grant program. The project converted a grant application process from paper to electronic -- allowing the grant application to be completed and submitted on-line. The Council will evaluate this grant application process to determine if additional grants should be moved to the Web.

Project: NCJIS Enhancements

Agency: Crime Commission

Award: \$62,000 (Actual Expenditure: \$62,000)

This grant had two components: implementation of Soundex on NCJIS (Nebraska Criminal Justice Information System) and expansion of local data availability through NCJIS. Soundex is a technology that compares similar names or spellings for matches (e.g. Smith and Smythe). The NCJIS server is a secure browser based Internet access point for criminal justice agencies to use central criminal justice databases. NCJIS is the result of a cooperative project involving state and local agencies to improve the access, availability and sharing of data. The grant funds were used to provide additional access to local law enforcement records systems. The Crime Commission used these grant funds to leverage additional federal funds for the project.

Project: Common Business Identification Number

Agency: Department of Revenue

Award: \$50,000 (Actual Expenditure: \$298.30)

The purpose of this project was to study the feasibility of merging the unemployment insurance file maintained by the Nebraska Department of Labor with the sales tax files maintained by the Nebraska Department of Revenue. A successful merger of these databases would allow the Department of Revenue to update its Nebraska Business Classification Codes, to the new North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS), at a reduced cost. The costs of this project were far less than anticipated.

Project: Web Based Report System

Agency: Volunteer Service Commission

Award: \$2,839.99 (Actual Expenditure: \$2,839.99)

The grant funds were used to purchase hardware to allow the agency to submit financial reports through an on-line, federal reporting system.

Project: Creating Digital Access and Archiving of the Conservation and Survey Division Aerial Photography Collection

Agency: UNL - Conservation and Survey Division

Award: \$32,300 (Actual Expenditure: \$32,300)

The Conservation and Survey Division (CSD), University of Nebraska-Lincoln, houses a large and valuable collection of tens of thousands of aerial photographs. The majority of these 9"x9" photographs were taken between the 1930s and 1970s. The grant funds were used to purchase hardware and pay student-workers to convert over 22,000 of these photographs to digital images.

Project: Generic Internet Licensing Application

Agency: DAS - IMServices

Award: \$151,440 (Actual Expenditure: \$47,865.50)

This project, as originally proposed, had three phases intended to create templates for developing on-line licensing applications. Phase I of the project involved surveying state agencies which perform licensing functions. The results of the survey indicated a greater than anticipated disparity in the information collected in license applications. After reviewing the results of Phase I, the State Government Council recommended proceeding with a series of Internet licensing pilot projects. Nebraska Interactive was to create a number of on-line license applications tying into the licensing software used by HHS. Because of delays caused by contract negotiations between the licensing software vendor and HHS, this grant expired before these pilot projects could be implemented. However, with the support of a grant from the State Records Board, these pilot projects are now scheduled to be complete by January 1, 2003.

Project: Lotus Notes Collaboration Research and Test Environment

Agency: DAS - IMServices

Award: \$50,000 (Actual Expenditure: \$24,340.07)

Agencies utilizing Lotus Notes constructed a research and testing infrastructure that allowed agencies to share resources and costs as they explored the potential of using new technologies to improve their business processes.

2001 Grants

Project: Workforce Investment Act Resource Centers

Agency: Assistive Technology Partnership

Award: \$25,000

Integrates assistive technology solutions into the Workforce Development One Stop Resource Centers to increase awareness of the potential of assistive technology to enhance the employability and productivity of persons with disabilities in competitive employment. The sponsor has signed memorandums of understanding with 7 of the 24 One Stop Center sites. This includes Lincoln, Beatrice, Grand Island, Columbus, Norfolk, and 2 locations in Omaha. Equipment has been purchased for these locations and will be installed by August. Additional training on equipment and referral services will be conducted at each site shortly after the installation.

Project: Security Assessment

Agency: Office of the CIO

Award: \$46,800

The purpose of this grant is to engage a qualified firm to conduct a security audit and security testing of the state's information technology infrastructure. The RFP has been drafted and the next step is to receive input from state agencies.

Project: Creating a Common Framework for Integrating Surface Water Data

Agency: Department of Natural Resources (multiple agencies)

Award: \$25,000

This project is part of a larger collaborative effort to develop a standardized, statewide, surface water features database (map), to facilitate the collection and integration of data and public policies of multiple state, local, and federal agencies that make or implement public policies related to Nebraska's surface water. Specifically, this project will develop a digital, (1:24,000-scale) geospatial database (map), with associated attributes, for the surface water features in the Lower Elkhorn Watershed in eastern Nebraska.

Project: Information Technology Support Tools Project

Agency: IMServices (multiple agencies)

Award: \$74,000

The project to implement an IT Support Tools System is a joint project with the Department of Correctional Services, the Department of Labor's Workforce Development group, Health and Human Services System, Workers' Compensation Court, and DAS Information Management Services. These agencies are working together to replace and upgrade aging technical support

software. The system will include problem management (help desk), hardware/software management (technology assets tracking), change management, and knowledge bases.

Project: Enterprise Security Awareness Training

Agency: IMServices

Award: \$36,620

This project will provide security training to security officers, IT staff, and other employees of state agencies.

Project: Enterprise Content Management Study

Agency: IMServices and Workers' Compensation Court

Award: \$100,000

The Enterprise Content Management Project is a two-phase undertaking to address the methodology of systematically organizing the State's electronic information resources so that the resources can be managed, secured, and made available as required. Conceptually, the need for enterprise content management combines interagency business knowledge, policies, information content, work processes, and technology with an overlying architecture that can deliver the content via a flexible, adaptive, portal-based service accessed with a single sign-on.

Project: Mobile Data Computer Project

Agency: State Patrol

Award: \$31,070.25

The objective of the MDC Project is to increase the amount of information provided to four (4) Headquarters Troop traffic officers by installing mobile data computers and 800 MHz radios in their marked patrol vehicles. The MDCs will have connectivity to the City of Lincoln's 800 MHz trunked radio system which allows them wireless, high speed connectivity to the Nebraska State Patrol Switcher. The Switcher is the device that allows access to all Federal and state databases. The project will provide the officers with the tools necessary to access these law enforcement data systems directly. Currently, officers often wait in queue for dispatcher response. The goal of this project is to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of four Nebraska State Patrol troopers. This directive will enhance a pilot project consisting of one officer utilizing the MDC system in cooperation with the City of Lincoln. This project will require the purchase of laptops, computers, wireless network infrastructure hardware, software and licensing. The City of Lincoln is providing the 800 Mhz radios to the Nebraska State Patrol.

Project: Value-Added Book Reviews: Any Time, Any Place

Agency: Library Commission

Award: \$8,322

Provide book reviews on the Web, including oral reviews of books for children and young adults.